റിപ്പോർട്ട കിട്ടീട്ട് കുറച്ച കാലമായിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിനുശേഷം ആ വഴിക്ക് പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുവാനുള്ള ആലോചന ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ? ഇല്ലെങ്കിൽ ആ വഴിക്കുള്ള ആലോചന വേഗത്തിൽ തുടങ്ങി അതിലെ നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ച് ആലോചിച്ചാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നുണ്ട്.

റാവു ബഹദൂർ ടി. കെ. നായർ: ഇതേവരെ ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്ന് വെറുതെ ഭംഗി പറയുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. അതു ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടാകും. അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും. അതു് ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ലെങ്കിൽ അതിനെപ്പറ്റി വേണ്ട നടപടിയെടുക്കും.

Motion put and carried

2. The Cochin Irrigation Act (Amendment) Bill

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴത്തച്ഛൻ: സർ, ഒന്നരണ്ട സംഗതികൾ ചോദിക്കുവാനുണ്ട്. ഈ ഇറിഗേഷൻ ആക്ട് വളരെ പഴക്കമുള്ള ഒന്നാണ്. ഭേദഗതി നിയമം കൂടാതെ പഴയ ആക്ടനുസരിച്ച് എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു വലിയ കാര്യമെങ്കിലും കൊച്ചിരാജ്യത്ത് നടന്നിട്ടുണ്ടോ? ഇത്ര ഏക്കർ ഭൂമിക്ക ഇന്നതരത്തിൽ ചെയ്യാമെന്നുണ്ട്. അങ്ങിനെ വല്ലതും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ? നിശ്ചയമില്ലെങ്കിൽ നിശ്ചയമില്ലെന്ന പറഞ്ഞാൽ മതി.

Sir, while I have no quarrel with any amendment considered necessary in the existing old Act being made, I take this opportunity, Sir, to urge upon the Government that the Statute Book of Cochin already burdened with Acts well conceived one category ill conceived, another category useful, one category mischievous, another category, ameliorative another category and repressive another be not further burdened. This Bill before the House is one on the ameliorative side. Let it not be made a dead letter, Sir. Just like a father who fondles a child for his being responsible for its being in this world, finds that his child is growing badly, or sees a stunted growth or a dummy like appearance, as the fate of the Irrigation Act of Cochin, and is pained at heart, I find myself not in any enviable position as regards this Bill.

Being responsible for the birth of the Irrigation Act in this Council as early as the year of this Act—that is one year prior to the year of the Act—I must say, Sir, in spite of the elucidating and illuminating light thrown in answer to my question whether this Act has been used thus far, I have been told, Sir, that it has been used for diverting irrigation waters in Chittur Taluk I feel miserable. Persons there were in Cochin, Sir, especially in Chittur, who were persons unlike most of us. There were persons in Chittur Taluk comprised in Cochin State who conceived the idea of the anicuts the grand schemes of storing and using water there. Not your engineers, not your engineering works Minister, or Mr. Bruford who is investigating there in Poringalkuthu and finding the site of the dam, but men of the soil who loved their land, who wanted to help their neighbours along with helping themselves.

That bill was well conceived, that bill had certain directions that in such and such cases that the Government will do such and such things by the side of the agriculturists. You have failed to use the Act for the purposes for which the same was enacted long years ago. Methods were invented to refuse. Such instances are a legion. You cannot say no to these things. Don't have such Acts on your Statute Book. At any rate, don't amend them any more unless you work the Act. What is the use of decorating something which will not be looked at or touched by anyone? I would not have made these remarks 10 months ago. My hopes are not still shattered, although I am afraid I am almost on the verge of it. I am optimistic still. My appeal to the Government of the day, to the concerned Minister or Ministers is to utilise the possibility of the Cochin Irrigation Act lying idle on your Statute Book, help the agriculturists, not for helping him, but for helping yourselves. Not for carrying the paddy got from these paddy fields resultant from irrigation facilities to your homes or my home—I want only a morsel of good rice, not that amalgam of pebbles and rice, but a morsel of good puzhukkalari (പുഴുക്കൽ അരി).

Enter upon some irrigation scheme, Sir. Make more lands available for cultivation of paddy and other food crops. Make the available cultivating lands yield more and do whatever is necessary for them cosistent with the provisions of this Act. I am not speaking of other things, although some of you, I feel, will suspect, that I am wandering. No within the competence, within the ambit of the Irrigation Act which is lying dormant in your Book, please act and if the present amendment will serve the purpose for which the Irrigation Act was conceived by its progenitors of those days let the amendment stand. I support the amendment, but please, Sir, remember these words. You will have to rue the day if you don't accept these words coming

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[Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan]

from a man who lives in the midst of agriculturists, knowing their difficulties. I do not go there in cars with ten miles of petrol consumption but on foot. I live with them, I know how they cultivate, I know what sort of cattle they have to cultivate, what is their capacity to manure the land, what is their capacity to divert water, though not an actual cultivator myself. With the knowlege I have, I give you this warning. Try to profit in time. It may be too late if you don't act in time. Let not the spectacle of starvation be hastened although it is almost at your doors with its open mouth burning with fire more than sufficient to consume the whole land inclusive of your capital.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ : സർ, ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പറുടെ ഉപദേശം ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ സ്വീകരിക്കുന്നതിനു് ഒരു പ്രയാസവുമില്ല. ജോയിന്റ് എഫർട്ട് ആവശ്യമുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ചീഫർ അതിനു വഴിപ്പെടുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ അവരേയും കൂടി വഴിപ്പെടുത്തുവാനുള്ള ഒരു പഞ്ചായത്ത് മാത്രമാണ് ഈ ബില്ലിലുള്ളതു്. കോംകൊട്ടിവേഷൻ നടത്തുന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ ഇപ്പോഴതുതന്നെ ജോയിന്റ് എഫർട്ട് നടക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ ബിൽ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ വേഗം ആരേണം ആയിരിക്കയില്ലെന്നു ഉറപ്പുതരുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നാണു് എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴുത്തച്ഛൻ : അനുഭവംകൊണ്ടു് അറിയുമാറാകട്ടെ.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Minister for Works):* The Cochin Irrigation Act (Amendment) Bill as modified by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Motion put and carried

Clause 2 was put and accepted.

Clause 1, title and preamble were put and accepted as part of the Bill.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Minister for Works):* Sir, I move that the Cochin Irrigation Act (Amendment) Bill be taken up and finally passed tomorrow.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Constitutional Adviser):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

3. The Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Prime Minister):* Sir, I move that the Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill be read in Council.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Constitutionl Adviser):* I second it.

***Mr. P.Govinda Menon** *(Prime Minister):* Sir, The present Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act is sought to be amended in two respects, that is the amendment Bill. These amendments have been occasioned by the termination of Dewanship here, because in section 2 (a) of the existing Act it is stated that each Minister shall be entitled to travelling and daily allowances at such rates as the Diwan may be entitled to from time to time. Now that there is no Diwan in the State, it has become necessary to insert the daily allowance which each Minister is entitled to. When there was a Diwan, immediately before the last Diwan resigned office, the Diwan was drawing a daily allowance of Rs. 10—10—8 a day. Under the amending Bill it is sought to be fixed at the rate of Rs. 10 a day. That is one of the amendments. Then regarding daily allowance for journeys outside the State some provision has been made in this Bill. Previously the practice has been to enable the Ministers and certain other officers of the State who travel outside the State to draw actual expenses incurred by those officers. It was pointed out that the actual expenses rule is rather difficult to work out and it is much better if the daily allowances and travelling allowances and other amounts are fixed by statute. Previously the matter was decided by executive order of Government. The present Ministers felt that it is improper to do these things by executive order when these matters come under their control also. Therefore, a schedule has been introduced fixing the mileage, daily allowance, etc., of the Ministers. Then another particular in which this Bill is sought to be amended is with respect to the salary of the President. The salary of the President is sought to be raised under clause 2 of the amending Bill that is to say, section 3 (b) of the existing bill is sought to be replaced by this measure. I submit that the House may be pleased to pass this Bill.

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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